

Bigfork Steering Committee Minutes
August 16, 2007
bigforksteering.org
Community Forum
(Amended)

In Attendance: Craig Wagner, Pat Wagner, Elna Darrow, George Darrow, Mike Richeson, Gary Ridderhoff, Steve Zabaro, Bruce Solberg, Leslie Budewitz, Denise Lang, Sally Janover, Clarice Ryan, Don Loranger, Bill Anderson, Sharon Anderson, Anne Shaw Moran (DNRC), Sue Shannon (Lake County planning Director) John Bourquin, Sue Hanson, Lucky Larson (Lake County Sheriff), A Myer, Jonathan Browning, Sally Janover, Mike Hutchin (Lake County Supervisor), Dan Roberson (DNRC), Denise Lang

The Meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Elna Darrow at 12:03

Agenda: The agenda was adopted as amended (m/sc Hanson/Bourquin

Minutes: The minutes for July 26, 2007 were approved as amended (m/s Janover/Darrow,G)

Correspondence: Pat read emails received. Joe Brenneman could not be at the meeting today as he was staffing the Creston Fire Department for quicker response to any fire calls received. Pat and Craig of the Creston Fire District wholeheartedly approved.

Gary Hall came last week not knowing we had postponed the meeting a week later to let us know that the Flathead Basin Commission had committed \$5000.00 to undertake engineering studies to address Bigfork's Storm water management issue. He also reported that the commissioners had met with Virginia Sloan of Senator John Testor's office and she brought another source of funds, the Community Development Block Grant Program. They could be a grant source for the rest of the funds. The commissioners are committed to getting this project completed with Joe's help.

BJ Grieve will be unable to meet on August 23, 2007 with us because of added duties in the Planning Office and the labor intensive of researching the land use map and zone changes in Bigfork since 1993. He has suggested Sept 13, 2007 as a possible date. Pat will call Shelley to see if she is available on that day. (I did and she is available)

Treasurer's Report: Chuck was absent and sent an email that our balance remains the same as last month.

Resort Tax Committee: No meeting

Lake County: Leslie reported on the findings of Lake Counties 4 public meetings held in June and July. She expressed delight in the number of people that came to them, 48, in Ferndale, Yellow Bay had about 37, Woods Bay had 26, Swan River had 22 and they also went to the to the Swan River home owners association. Leslie felt of the 4 groups, Ferndale approved, no vote taken, Yellow Bay primarily Eastshore Zoning residents, has a small district and wish to keep it that way. Woods Bay meeting with mostly Woods Bay residents had a straw vote and it was favorable. The committee had 40 written comments. The only dissenters were those residents that were from Eastshore Zoning District. The committee recommendation was to move forward with the process of forming the North Lake County and Planning Zoning District and working with Sue Shannon. The

committee will resume meetings at the Bigfork Chamber of Commerce on September 7 at 9:00 am. Their meetings will be held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month. They welcome new membership. Leslie's full report will put on our web site www.bigforksteering.org. There is also a copy attached with these minutes kept in the secretary's notebook. Anyone wanting a copy please email or call me. A question and answer period then took place with Sue Shannon, Mike Hutchin and Lucky Larson answering. As counties are strapped for money, Mike Hutchin says we need to change a law at the legislative level that keeps counties that way by only allowing a 5% increase yearly. All counties in MT are strapped for money.

Vision Committee: Edd could not be present today His report mentions a mission statement and doing a cd to give to realtors to give to prospective customers about Bigfork. Again I will be glad to send his report by email if anyone is interested in it. . (See full report in notebook). The next Vision Committee meeting is on September 11, 2007, 11:00 (Note new time) at the Saddlehorn Discovery Tower (community living room)) on Grand Ave. Any one who wants to participate is welcome to attend.

DNRC: Leslie had invited the **Department** of Natural Resources (DNRC) to be included in this meeting. They explained their position in MT government. They deal with water rights, land ownership, trust lands for public use, timber and real estate management , are among some of their duties. Earnings from Trust Lands (includes all earning in agriculture, grazing leases, timber sales, Trust investments, mineral royalties, real estate development, etc supply about 8-10% of the monies needed to support K-12 education in Montana. So in dealing with a lot of land issues they are very much concerned with planning and zoning especially in having fire defensible subdivisions.

Chairman's Report and Announcements: Elna reported she had asked The CFBB for more help in funds for the maps in the Bigfork Neighborhood Plan and the storm water project and they replied would have to see as the sidewalk plan from approximately from the Wild Mile Deli to the river by the bridge is now is now estimated over budget at \$100,000.

Community Foundation for a Better Bigfork (BDC) has their annual fund raising on Thursday September 6, 2007 at the Garden Bar starting at 6:00 PM, this will be a silent auction and a live auction.

September 14, 2007 Friends of the Bigfork Fire Dept are holding a 9 hole Golf Tournament starting a 12:00 and at approximately 5:00 Burgers, Brats and music at the Harbor Village Pavilion. Still plenty of spaces open for the Tournament.

There is going to be Large Lakes Conference on Oct 17 and 18 in Polson. More information about this conference can be found at www.Flatheadbasincommision.org Our next meeting will be Sept 13, 2007 at 12:00 pm at Bethany Lutheran Church, Basement, please enter by the Bridge Street entrance.

The Vice Chairman would like to remind everyone that October is election month and that you must have attended 3 consecutive meetings in the last year to be eligible to vote for officers. You must sign in on the sign in sheets to be counted . That is how we determine who can vote. The sheet will be on a table for you to do that as you come into the room.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:31
Pat Wagner, Secretary